

## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

April 9, 1999

Craig C. Donsanto
Director, Election Crimes Branch
Public Integrity Section
Department of Justice
P.O. Box 27321
Central Station
Washington, D.C. 20530

Craig.

RE: MUR 4583

Dear Mr. Donsanto:

By letter dated November 23, 1998, this Office notified the Department of Justice that the Federal Election Commission had found probable cause to believe that the Embassy of India and Davendra Singh knowingly and willfully violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 441e and 441f and that the Commission had determined to refer these apparent violations to the Department pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(5)(C) and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Department and the Commission.

Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g(c), the Department shall, within sixty days after the date of the Commission's referral and every 30 days thereafter until final disposition, report to the Commission any action taken by the Department regarding the apparent violations. To date, the Commission has not received a report from the Department. In a January 26, 1999, telephone conversation with Jonathan Bernstein of this Office, you stated that the Department's response would be delayed several weeks. In light of the time that has elapsed, please contact us regarding the status of this matter. You can contact me at (202)694-1650 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lawrence M. Noble General Counsel

By: Lois G. Lerner

Associate General Counsel

Jan VX

Lynne A. Battaglia, United States Attorney Page 2

Subsequently, the Commission on November 9, 1998, found probable cause to believe that the Embassy of India and Davendra Singh knowingly and willfully violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 441e and 441f. In lieu of Post-Probable Cause Conciliation under 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(4)(A)(i), the Commission referred this matter to the United Department of Justice for its consideration pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(5)(C) and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Department and the Commission. On July 20, 1999, the Department of Justice advised the Commission that it had closed the matter "without further investigation or prosecution." Subsequently, the Commission, on August 26, 1999, determined to take no further action, send an admonishment letter, and close the file.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping the Commission meet its enforcement responsibilities under the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended. If you have any questions, please contact Dominique Dillenseger, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Lawrence M. Noble General Counsel

BY:

Lois G. Lemer

Associate General Counsel

cc: Craig C. Donsanto, Department of Justice